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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/099,900 | 03/14/2002 | Ronald Vern Schauer | 004448 USA P 02/CPS/IBSS | 3672 |
| 32588 | 7590 | 11/12/2003 | EXAMINER | |
| MORRISON, NASCHICA SANDERS | | | | |
| APPLIED MATERIALS, INC. 2881 SCOTT BLVD. M/S 2061 SANTA CLARA, CA 95050 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |

3632

DATE MAILED: 11/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/099,900

Applicant(s)

SCHAUER, RONALD VERN

Examiner

Naschica S Morrison

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2002 and 06 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8,9,11 and 16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,10,12-15 and 17-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3,4,8,11.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This is the first Office Action for serial number 10/099,900, Facilities Connection Bucket for pre-facilitation of wafer fabrication equipment, filed on March 14, 2003. Claims 1-23 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

Claims 11 and 16 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 10. Additionally, claims 8 and 9 have been withdrawn from consideration as also being directed to a non-elected invention.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: on page 22, line 19, "troubleshooting," should be --troubleshooting and--; on page 23, line 3 insert --. before "Alternatively"; on page 24, line 10 "then" should be --than-- and on line 28, "307at" should be --307 at--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,555,845 to Flynn. Regarding claims 1 and 20, Flynn discloses a box (10) comprising: a mounting mechanism (flange perpendicularly extending from the top periphery of 10), one or more mechanisms (one of the holes 30) for selectively coupling an add-on feature within the box (10), and a mechanical locating/exhaust mechanism (another of the holes 30).

Claims 1-3 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,499,473 to Ramberg. Regarding claims 1-3 and 10, Ramberg discloses a box (10) comprising: a mounting mechanism (26, 28), one or more mechanisms (36) for selectively coupling a partition (34) within the box (10), and a mechanism (30) for coupling an openable cover (20) having a mechanical locating mechanism (46) to the box (10).

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 12, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,332,554 to McCarthy. Regarding claims 1-3, 6, 7, 12, 21 and 22, McCarthy discloses a box (1) comprising: a mounting mechanism (30), a mechanism (8) for coupling an openable cover (7) having a tool storage mechanism (9) to the box (1), an automatic lockout tag out mechanism (15,18,19), a mechanism (see

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bracket in phantom outline shown attached to 13) for coupling a partition (13) within the box (1).

Claims 1, 2, 12, 13 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,028,267 to Byrne. Regarding claims 1, 2, 12 and 13, Byrne discloses a box (108) comprising: a mounting mechanism (110), a mechanism (36) for selectively coupling a partition (34) within the box (1), and a mechanism (166) for coupling an openable cover (160) and lighting (col. 1, lines 25-29) to the box (1). Regarding claim 23, the method steps recited therein are deemed to be anticipated by the functions of the structure applied above and are further taught by Byrne (col. 6, lines 64 ff.).

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,575,904 to Nagai et al. (Nagai). Regarding claims 1, 2, 5 and 19, Nagai discloses a box (1) comprising: a mounting mechanism (feet protruding from bottom surface of 1; see Fig. 1), a mechanism (6) for selectively coupling a sensor (2) and warning indicator (see claim 45) to the box.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-4, 7, 10, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flynn in view of Ramberg. With regards to claims 2-4, 7, 10, and 12, Flynn discloses the box as applied above and further teaches a partition/tool storage/document storage compartment (24), but does not teach the box including a mechanism for selectively coupling the partition/tool storage/document storage mechanism within the box (10) or an openable cover. Ramberg discloses the box as applied to claims 1-3 and 10 above. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the box of Flynn to include a selective coupling mechanism (36) because one would have been motivated to provide a means for positively positioning the partition (24) as inherently taught by Ramberg as well as prevent inadvertent shifting of the partition within the box. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the box of Flynn to include a cover (20) because one would have been motivated to retain live cargo within the box when the boxes are in an unstacked configuration.

Claims 14 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ramberg in view of U.S. Patent JP 08-323036 to Niwa et al. (Niwa). With regards to claims 14 and 17, Ramberg discloses the box as applied above but does not teach the box including a lifting mechanism. Niwa discloses a lifting mechanism (34) for raising or lowering a box (11) into position. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the box of Ramberg to include a lifting mechanism because one would have been motivated to

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provide prevent a user from having to manually lift and lower the box as taught by Niwa (see Constitution).

Claims 15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCarthy in view of U.S. Patent 4,085,987 to Vartdal. With regards to claims 15 and 18, McCarthy discloses the box as applied above but does not teach the box including a lifting mechanism. Vartdal discloses a box (11) including a lifting mechanism (28, 29, 30, 32) adapted to lift or lower an item to or from the box (11). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the box of Flynn to include a lifting mechanism because one would have been motivated to provide additional mechanisms for storage of accessories as well as permit easy accessibility thereto when the cover is in an open position as inherently taught by Vartdal.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

3904524 to Pelton et al; 4084865 to Joyce; 4351613 to Hope et al;

4643303 to Arp et al; 4721476 to Zelif et al; 5008491 to Bowman;


5280132 to Clarey et al; 6258332 to Johnson et al; 0497281 to Yamashita

The above references disclose boxes/receptacles relevant to Applicant's invention.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Naschica S. Morrison, whose telephone number is (703) 305-0228. If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leslie Braun can be reached at 703-308-2156. The fax machine telephone number for the Technology Center is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this Application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist at (703) 872-9325.


Naschica S. Morrison
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3632
10/31/03


ANITA KING
PRIMARY EXAMINER